

FDA/Dockets
Management Branch (HFA-305)
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

4578 '99 SEP 21 110:18

RE: Docket No. 97N-0074

I am writing to submit my input on the improvement of food safety.

I write this shortly after 2 people died of E.coli complications in the Albany, NY area, after they had drunk contaminated water at a local fair. The response is to pass a law about clean drinking water at local fairs.

It has become clear to most of us that much of our water, both groundwater and run-off, is being contaminated with animal feces, due to the high-volume and factory-farming procedures of our current agricultural practices.

Instead of treating the symptoms of our unsafe food, we need to examine the sources of food production. We need to look at farming practices regarding land use, pesticide use, water use and the abuse of food animals. We need to educate people to eat more healthfully, and to eat less/no meat products, because of documented health hazards and diseases, such as cancer and heart. Of course, this would be a great political and economic challenge to our current food production, but we are tackling a similar common, but dangerous health problem - tobacco.

We need to "think out of the box" in the 21st century, and solve yesterday's problems with futuristic and creative ideas. As Einstein said, **"No problem can be solved from the same consciousness that created it"**.

Please use your power and influence to be a visionary leader and solve this massive food problem with courage and vision. Our nation's health and the survival of this planet is dependent on it.

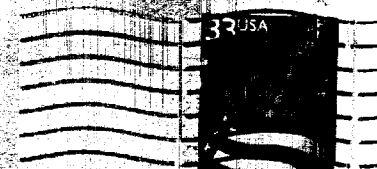
Sincerely,

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